

Serial No.: 09/800,440

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application upon entry of this amendment. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 have been allowed as noted in the Notice of Allowance dated January 24, 2004.

This amendment is being filed together with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Claims 6 and 20 are amended to correct minor grammatical errors. Claims 17 and 19 are amended to depend directly from allowed claim 15. None of these amendments is intended to adversely affect the allowability of the claims.

New claims 21-29 are added by way of this amendment. Method claims 21-23 are based on allowed claims 6, 11 and 20, respectively. Claims 24-26 are apparatus claims based on allowed claims 6, 11 and 20, respectively. Claims 27-29 are processor claims based on allowed claims 6, 11 and 20, respectively. Claim 21-29 are also believed to be allowable.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

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Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP



Mark D. Saralino

Reg. No. 34,243

DATE: March 22, 2004

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